IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 8, 14 and 18.

Amend Claims 1-7, 9-13, and 15-17 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A disk drive, comprising:

a functional unit including a disk serving as an information storage medium and defining x, y, and z directions;

a case assembly holding the functional unit therein; and wherein

the case assembly is provided with a thick frame bumper serving as a shock-absorbing member, and a surface of the frame bumper protrudes from side surfaces of the disk drive beyond other members, and the frame bumper is formed from a core material having a high hardness and an elastic material having a relatively lower hardness than the core material.

2. (currently amended) The disk drive of claim 1, wherein the case assembly includes a top cover located an upper z direction end and covering an upper surface of the disk drive, [[and]] the surface of the frame bumper protrudes in the z direction beyond a surface of the top cover on the upper surface of the disk drive, and the frame bumper protrudes in the x and z directions by a distance in a range of 0.5 to 1 mm.

3. (currently amended) The disk drive of claim 1, wherein the frame bumper of the case assembly has a pair of guide rails that perform a guide function of detachably mounting the disk drive in a PC card ~~on an object~~.

4. (currently amended) The disk drive of claim 3, further comprising a connector inserted in a slot formed in the ~~object~~ PC card when the disk drive is mounted in the PC card ~~on the object~~; and wherein

both the frame bumper and the connector serves ~~as part of~~ the guide function of detachably mounting the disk drive in the PC card.

5. (currently amended) The disk drive of claim 1, wherein a thickness of the case assembly in a direction of a thickness of the frame bumper is dependent on a nut, the functional unit has a connector, and the nut extends through the connector.

6. (currently amended) The disk drive of claim 1, wherein the ~~frame bumper~~ elastic material is formed from [[an]] a polyester elastomer, and the core material is formed from a polycarbonate or nylon resin.

7. (currently amended) A storage medium defining x, y, and z directions and having an assembly structure capable of being detachably loaded into a PC card ~~an object~~, comprising:

a connector for insertion in a slot formed in the PC card ~~object~~, the connector having tapered guide features that provide a guiding function for the storage medium relative to the PC card;

an elastic member forming an external shape not departing from a form factor that is required in mounting the storage medium to the PC card ~~object~~; and wherein

positions of two-dimensional side surfaces of an external shape is dependent on the connector and the elastic member, and the elastic member extends beyond a functional unit of the storage medium in the x and z directions.

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The storage medium of claim 7, wherein the elastic member is provided with [[a]] guide ~~structure~~ rails that align with the tapered guide features of the connector in the y direction and [[is]] are guided by and mounted [[on]] to the PC card ~~object~~.

10. (currently amended) The storage medium of claim 7, wherein the elastic member has parts protruding from all of the two-dimensional side surfaces beyond other members in the x, y, and z directions, and protrudes in the x and z directions by a distance in a range of 0.5 to 1 mm.

11. (currently amended) The storage medium of claim 7, wherein the elastic member is disposed in a middle part of the assembly structure and is formed from a core material having a high hardness and an elastomer having a relatively lower hardness than the core material.

12. (currently amended) The storage medium of claim 7, further comprising:

a nut inserted through the elastic member and through the connector in [[a]] the z direction ~~of a thickness of the assembly structure~~;

a screw for fastening the nut; and wherein

a form factor in the z direction ~~of the thickness~~ is determined by fastening the nut by the screw.

13. (currently amended) A portable precision device including an assembly structure and capable of being detachably mounted on an object, the portable precision device comprising:

a functional unit defining x, y, and z directions, and having a top cover and a connector;

a base plate for holding the functional unit, the base plate being located opposite the top cover in the z direction;

a shock-absorbing member formed separate from the base plate and disposed in a middle part of the assembly structure such that the shock-absorbing member protrudes beyond the top cover in the z direction; and wherein

both lateral and vertical shocks acting on the portable precision device in the x, y, and z directions are absorbed by the shock-absorbing member.

a thickness of the portable precision device in the z direction is dependent on a nut, and the nut extends through the connector.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The portable precision device of claim 13, wherein the shock-absorbing member is formed of resins comprising a elastic material of polyester elastomer, and a core material formed from a polycarbonate or nylon resin, and the shock-absorbing member protrudes beyond the top cover in the z direction by a distance in a range of 0.5 to 1 mm ~~by two-color molding~~.

16. (currently amended) The portable precision device of claim 13, wherein the shock-absorbing member has [[a]] guide rails protruding ~~part protruding~~ ther efrom in [[a]] the x direction and extending along [[of]] a side surface of the portable precision device in the y direction, and [[a]] the guide rails ~~is formed to~~ guide the portable precision device in mounting and removing the portable precision device on and from the object.

17. (currently amended) The portable precision device of claim [[13]] 16, further comprising a card assembly provided with [[a]] the connector for insertion in a slot formed in the object; and wherein

the connector has tapered guide members that serves ~~as part of a~~ with the guide rails for guiding the portable precision device in mounting the portable precision device on the object.

18. (canceled)

19. (original) The portable precision device of claim 13, wherein the functional unit includes a magnetic disk supported for rotation, and an actuator assembly for reading data from the magnetic disk and writing data to the magnetic disk.